

# Seizing an American Empire - Chapter 19 (Key Events That Continue Today)

**Caution:** Page 672 The heading “A Splendid Little War” is a famous phrase by John Hay, the future Secretary of State, about the War of 1898 (Spanish-American War). Page 676 The phrase is finally explained 4 pages later.

Organization:

1. Arrows (>) in the left column of each chronology indicates an issue in Chapter 19, but there are exam questions from other chapters shown in these chronologies.
2. **Yellow** as usual highlights a key term. Color coding shows the geographic area of our activity:
  - Hawaii/Pacific (including Alaska) in **Dark Grey**
  - China in **Pink**
  - Latin America/Caribbean in **Light Grey**
3. Reminder: Before the Civil War, the United States had “manifest destiny,” Texas annexation, and the Mexican War and the subsequent Mexican territories gained to the West Coast.
4. Sections:
  - [Chronological Event Pre-1887 Period - Alaska – Seward’s “Folly” \(but later oil\)](#)
  - [Chronological Events of the 1887-1896 Era](#)
  - [Chronological Events of the 1896-1901 Era](#)
  - [Chronological Events of the 1901-1914 Era](#)
  - [Keywords to Help You](#)

## Chronological Event Pre-1887 Period - **Alaska – Seward’s “Folly”** (but later gold and oil)

19	Date	Presidential Election	Beyond America
	1865-04	A. Johnson, President	
>	1867-02		Russia, <b>Alaska</b> as willing sale; bribes

## Chronological Events of the 1887-1896 Era (<Future = something that continues to ripple in time—and including to your current one.)

19	Date	Presidential Election	Beyond America	Gov. Institutions	US Land	US Economy	Issue/Organization	Political Party
	1882			Chinese Exclusion Act – 10 year				
	1887-02		Hawaii-US treaty renewed & sugar		...			
	<b>1888-11</b>	<b>Benjamin Harrison v. Grover Cleveland</b>						
	1889				Oklahoma Land Rush		Hull House– Jane Addams	
	1890			Sherman Anti-Trust	Wounded Knee, South Dakota	McKinley Tariff & sugar in Hawaii		<Future
>			A.T. Mahan - <i>The Influence of Sea Power on History</i>	<Future	Census Bureau: end of frontier	<Future Sherman Silver Purchase Act		
	1892			Chinese – new 10 year extension				
>	1892-01		Coup, Hawaii – Sanford B. Dole, <sup>i</sup> elected President; US minister to Hawaii declaration of US protectorate–	Ellis Island opens	<Future		Homer A. Plessy, case begins	
>	1892-02		Hawaii annexation treaty proposed					
	<b>1892-11</b>	<b>Benjamin Harrison v. Grover Cleveland v. James B. Weaver</b>				Panic of 1893		
>	1893-03	Cleveland’s decision	Hawaii investigation					
	1893-08	Cleveland, special session -Why?						
	1893-11					Sherman Silver Purchase Act - repeal		
>	1893-12	Cleveland’s decision	Hawaii annexation treaty not submitted					
>	1894		Republic of Hawaii recognized			Pullman Strike – American Railway Union Strike – E.V. Debs	“Legal Tender” Jacob Coxey’s Army – petition for road building (jobs)	
	1895					US Bond sale - handled by J.P. Morgan	Atlanta Exposition <sup>ii</sup> speech – Booker T. Washington	<Future
	1896		Cuban rebellion	Plessy V. Ferguson	<Future <Future			

## Chronological Events of the 1896-1901 Era

19	Date	Presidential Election	Beyond America	Gov. Institutions	US Land	Issue/Organization	Political Party
	1896-11	William McKinley vs. William Jennings Bryan –Issues in this election: <a href="#">list</a>					Populist support for Bryan - <i>What are the Populists' issues.</i>
>	1898-01		Cuban riot				
>	1898-02		Battleship <i>Maine</i>			<a href="#">News and the war</a>	
			<i>Maine</i> explosion				
>	1898-04		War authorized with the Teller Amendment	< Caution US can't take Cuba			
>	1898-05		Dewey in Manilla – Notice this and this <a href="#">list</a> on the Spanish American War and its images				
>	1898-07				Hawaii annexation – by joint resolution (not treaty)- <b>WHY?</b>		
>	1898-11					Anti-Imperialist League formed- key issue will be the Philippines (See Primary)	<Future
>	1899		Treaty ending war - Senate approval	Notice Cuba is not in this list >	Guam Philippines Puerto Rico		
>			Filipino resistance - Emilio Aguinaldo			<Caution “	
>	1899		Open Door – China - trade		Annexation - Wake Island - Eastern Samoa Islands- US splits Samoa with Germany		
	1900-08		Boxer Rebellion and US troops				
>	1901		Aguinaldo capture (resistance through 1902, 1906) – end military rule; Taft, governor.			<Caution “	
>	1901-03		Platt Amendment – Cuba - Guantanamo and our right to intervene	< Notice US indirectly took Cuba			

## Chronological Events of the 1901-1914 Era

19	Date	Presidential Election	Beyond America	Continued from 16-19
	1900-11	William McKinley vs. William Jennings Bryan	<Future Vice President Theodore Roosevelt	
	1901-09	McKinley, assassinated by anarchist; <b>T.R. President</b>		
	1902		US Navy into Venezuela – German & British debt collection in region – <b>Concept:</b> sovereign debt <Caution:	
	1903-10		Panama zone from Columbia, but not ratified by Columbian Senate	
>	1903-11		Panama revolt; Panama zone from Panama (Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty) Result at that time: Panama Canal Zone (99-year rental)	
	1904			
	1904-11	Theodore Roosevelt vs. Alton B. Parker vs. E. V. Debs (Socialist)		
>	1904-12		Dominican Republic – debt collection Roosevelt Corollary to Monroe Doctrine <Caution: with the meaning of Corollary	
	1905		Far East: T.R. in ending Russo-Japanese War (Portsmouth treaty). US-Japan agreement (US controls Philippines; Japan, Korea) <b>Concept:</b> sphere of influence <Caution:	Niagara Conference – W.E.B. Du Bois
	1906			“Yellow Peril” trend <Caution:-San Francisco School Board segregation
	1907-02		“Gentleman’s Agreement” and what that meant and how different from the Chinese <Caution:	
	1908-11		2 <sup>nd</sup> agreement with Japan on Open Door with China Great White Fleet	
	1908-11	William Howard Taft vs. William Jennings Bryan	“Dollar Diplomacy” – Secretary of State Knox – “The borrower is the servant of the lender.” <Caution: Attempts in Manchuria and Honduras and Nicaragua.	
	1912-11	William Howard Taft vs. Woodrow Wilson vs. T. Roosevelt vs. E. V. Debs (Socialist)		
	1913		Mexico: Ongoing coups (since Taft), US Marines - Tampico (9 sailors/21 gun salute) Then US blockades Mexico and occupies Vera Cruz and Wilson surprised to have Americans viewed as invaders.	16 <sup>th</sup> Amendment – income tax 17 <sup>th</sup> Amendment – direct election of Senators
	1914		Panama Canal – officially open (August)	
	1916		“Pancho” Villa – Texas/New Mexico; General Pershing into Mexico	

## Keywords to Help You

### Keyword List on Business:

industrial capitalists  
finance capitalists

### Keyword List on Election of 1896:

“Cross of Gold” speech  
Mark Hanna  
Funding of \$3.5-\$4M

### Keyword List on News:

“yellow journalism”  
William Randolph Hearst – *New York Journal*  
Joseph Pulitzer – *New York World*

### Keyword List on Spanish American War:

“Smoked Yankees” – name for African Americans (not in the test, but a clue to the world)  
“splendid little war”  
Rough Riders

## ***Panic of 1893 – Called the Great Depression until the one beginning in 1929 started***

### Quantities and the Panic of 1893:

17-19% unemployed  
600 banks fail  
119 railroads bankrupt  
15,000 business closed  
100s of millions – losses in stock market

### Causes of the Panic of 1893

- McKinley Tariff (too high to buy—thus lower revenues for the government)
- British bank failures (Britishers need their cash—thus sell their American investments and take gold, not paper dollars)
- Government pensions (too many given out by Harrison)
- Gold below \$100 million, then \$80 million (**perceived as too little**—thus too much **fear**)

Cleveland, however, focuses on only **one** cause: The Sherman Silver Purchase Act of 1890.  
He is wrong. Repeal of the act does not stop the depression.

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<sup>i</sup> The event is covered in your book, but not Dole’s name. (Where have you seen the name *Dole* in a grocery store?)

<sup>ii</sup> W.E.B. Du Bois calls it the Atlanta *Compromise* – given American history and what events we have labeled as a *Compromise*, not a compliment.